

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

S E C R E T STATE 218067

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: US, BR

SUBJECT: REPLY TO PRESIDENTIAL LETTER ON CAMP DAVID
SUMMIT

REF: STATE 206055

DEPARTMENT RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM PREIDENT
GEISEL TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM BRASILIAN EMBASSY ON
AUGUST 25 UNDER COVER OF NOTE OF THE SAME DATE.
LETTER IS DATED AUGUST 23. TEXT OF BRAZILIAN
EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

ON AUGUST 15 I RECEIVED THE TEXT OF YOUR THOUGHTFUL
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LETTER ON THE MEETING YOU ARE PROMOTING BETWEEN
PRIME MINISTER MENACHEN BEGIN AND PRESIDENT ANWAR
SADAT AT CAMP DAVID, IN AN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT THE
DETERIORATION OF NEGOTIATIONS TOWARDS A SOLUTION
OF THE CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE INFORMATION CONVEYED BY YOUR LETTER, FOR WHICH

I AM VERY GRATEFUL, AFFORDS ME A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S MOTIVES IN TAKING SUCH AN IMPORTANT INITIATIVE AND INDICATE THE EXTENT OF YOUR CONCERN WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN IMPASSE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WOULD FRUSTRATE THE EXPECTATIONS OF AN AGREEMENT GENERATED BY THE JERUSALEM AND ISMAILIA MEETINGS.

I SEND YOU MY BEST WISHES FOR THE COMPLETE SUCCESS OF YOUR INITIATIVE, IN THE HOPE THAT IT WILL KEEP OPEN THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL AND RENEW THE WILLINGNESS TO ARRIVE AT A LASTING PEACE GROUNDED ON THE FOUNDATIONS OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY. I DO BELIEVE THAT ONLY SUCH FOUNDATIONS CAN GUARANTEE, IN THE LONG RUN, THE SECURITY OF THAT REGION, WHICH TODAY CONSTITUTES A UNIVERSAL CONCERN, NOT ONLY FOR STRATEGIC MOTIVES, BUT ALSO FOR THE DAMAGE ITS DISRUPTION HAS INFLICTED ON THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF BOTH MATERIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND IN ISRAEL HAVE MADE THE CURRENT ARMED PEACE INCREASINGLY PRECARIOUS. REGIONAL STABILITY SHOULD BE THE NATURAL OUTCOME OF THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, SOVEREIGNTY, AND POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE BY THE STATES OF THE REGION. IN MY JUDGEMENT, ONLY MUTUALLY RECOGNIZED BORDERS
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CAN BE TRULY SAFE, GIVEN THE INCREASING IMPROVMENT OF THE WAR CAPABILITIES OF ALL PARTS INVOLVED IN THE CONFLICT.

THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AS A STATE, WITHIN ACCEPTED BORDERS. SUCH A RIGHT, HOWEVER, CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT BE EXERCIZED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF MILITARY OCCUPATION OF NEIGHBORING TERRITORIES.

THE COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION 242, WHICH ESTABLISHES CLEAR-CUT OBLIGATIONS IS, IN MY OPINION, A BASIC REQUIREMENT FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE ISSUES BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL. THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AN UNDERSTANDING BASED ON RESOLUTION 242 AT CAMP DAVID WOULD BE AN AUSPICIOUS DEVELOPMENT, WHICH WOULD FACILITATE FUTURE AGREEMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. THE GRADUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF SETTLEMENTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, HOWEVER, DOES NOT SEEM, IN MY VIEW, INDICATIVE OF ISRAEL'S WILLINGNESS TO-ARRIVE AT AN EFFECTIVE AND PEACEFUL SOLUTION THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS.

ESSENTIAL AS I DEEM RESOLUTION 242, AS I HAVE POINTED

OUT, I DO NOT THINK THAT ITS IMPLEMENTATION ALONE
IS SUFFICIENT. IN THE COURSE OF OUR CONVERSATIONS

LAST MARCH I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THE
BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S POSITION CONCERNING THE
PALESTINIANS' RIGHTS TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND TO
SOVEREIGNTY. I REITERATE NOW MY CONVICTION THAT
THE EXERCISE OF SUCH RIGHTS IS A NECESSARY
CONDITION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUST AND
LASTING PEACE IN THE REGION. ANY SOLUTION THAT
IGNORES THESE RIGHTS WILL TEND TO PROVE TEMPORARY.
I FURTHER BELIEVE THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE FUTURE
IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS THAT MIGHT AFFECT ITS FATE AS
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A NATION AND, ABOVE ALL, AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE.

I AM EQUALLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO ARRIVE AT AN AGREEMENT
ON THE MEANS TO ASSURE THAT THE PEACE OF THE REGION
WILL BE RESPECTED. IT SEEMS TO ME, IN PARTICULAR,
THAT ONLY THOSE MULTILATERAL GUARANTEES WILL BE VALID,
WHICH ARE GIVEN BY THE COUNTRIES WHO EXERT EFFECTIVE
INFLUENCE OVER THE REGION, WHETHER BY POLITICAL
ASCENDANCY OR MILITARY COOPERATION THAT THEY MAY GIVE
ONE OR THE OTHER AMONG THE CONTENDERS. I DO
BELIEVE, FURTHER, THAT THE FRAMEWORK AGREED UPON AND
THE TERRITORIAL COMMITMENTS TO BE ARRIVED AT MUST
HAVE THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY
COUNCIL, WHICH HAS THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

WITH THESE THOUGHTS I HOPE TO HAVE FRANKLY CORRESPONDED
TO THE WISH YOU HAVE EXPRESSED AND REITERATE MY WISHES
THAT THIS INITIATIVE UNDERTAKEN BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
MAY CREATE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR THE SOLUTION OF
SUCH A BLOODY AND PROLONGED CONFLICT. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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